

The Morning Astorian.

VOL. L.

ASTORIA, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1900.

NO. 220

For 63 Years

The Bridge & Beach Manufacturing Co. have always combined every known improvement for increasing the utility, operation and cooking qualities of their ranges. Their latest can be seen in the window of the

Eclipse Hardware Co.

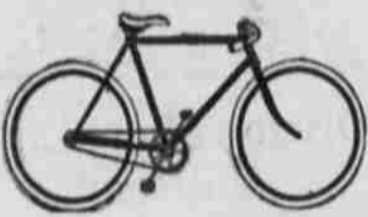
The best range in the world. You can buy one. The price is not out of sight.

Masks! Masks!

Large and Varied Stock. Prices the Lowest.

GRIFFIN & REED

..Columbia Bicycles..



Chainless, model 1900, \$75.00
Chainless, model 1899, \$60.00
Columbia, model 1900, \$50.00
Columbia, model 1899, \$42.50
Hartford, model 1900, \$35.00 Pennant, model 1900, \$25.00

Foard & Stokes Co., Agts.

SOME EXTRA FINE RIPE MISSION OLIVES JUST OPENED

"HEINTZ" FAMOUS PICKLES,
RELISHES, AND CATSUPS

GORDON DILWORTH'S
JELLIES AND PRESERVES

PINE TEAS AND COFFEES
CHASE & SANBORN'S

ROSS, HIGGINS & CO.

OUR NEW GOODS

Just arrived from the East and now ready for our 1800 customers are:

Combination Book Cases, Writing Desks,
China Closets, Music Cabinets,
Library Cases, in Golden Oak and Mahogany.

These goods were bought before the rise in prices and will be sold accordingly.

Charles Hellborn & Son

INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN.

ORDERS SOLICITED

Miss Bertha Martin's

Decorative
Art
Room.

Room 820 Dekum Building, 34 and Washington Sts., Portland, Or.

C. J. TRENCHARD,

Commission, Brokerage,
Insurance and Shipping.

Custom House Broker.

★ ★ ASTORIA, OREGON

Agent W. F. & Co., and Pacific Express Co.

GATHERING FOR HOME DEFENSE

Boers Leave British Territory to
Concentrate Against Roberts.

CRONJE'S CHASE GOES ON

Butler Reports the Enemy's Departure
From in Front of Ladysmith
and Siege May be Raised.

LONDON, Feb. 21, 4:15 p. m.—The Boers are leaving all the positions held by them on British territory and are concentrating for the defense of their own. Sir Redvers Buller thinks that they are about to raise the siege of Ladysmith and this is the large news of the day.

General Clements reports that the force confronting him has been greatly diminished. Ten thousand men are estimated to have gone from the Colenso district alone.

The Boers are also retreating their steps from Zululand. Thus they are relaxing their hold on all sides in order to assemble to oppose Lord Roberts. He is pressing on steadily towards Bloemfontein. This is shown by his inconsequential telegram from Paardeberg, fifty or sixty miles away.

Doubtless he is miles behind the column that is pursuing the Boers and the next important news may be the occupation of Bloemfontein.

Nothing has been heard from the chase of Cronje for two days. Although the last words of the war office tonight were that there was no news for publication, there is a strong disposition to believe that favorable information has been received, but is being withheld until the operations culminate in something more conclusive. There is an equally strong disposition to think that General Cronje has got away.

Owing to the lack of transports the British are not likely to invade the Boer territory, except where Lord Roberts is operating.

General Buller will have to stop at the Drakenberg mountains. Probably part of his 40,000 men will ultimately join the legions of Lord Roberts.

If, as General Buller avers, the Boers are retreating from him, then the news on every side is favorable to the British. Nevertheless troops continue to go up. The war office thinks that the call to veterans to join the colors, together with the bounty, will bring 45,000 men to the home defense. The urgency with which the home defense is pressed excites some wonder.

With the casualties just reported the British losses in wounded, killed and captured are now 11,102.

BULLER'S ADVANCE.

The Boers Hold the Railway North of the Tugela.

LONDON, Feb. 20.—The following dispatch was received at the war office from Buller:

"Blow's Farm, Tuesday, 4:10 p. m.—The fusilier brigade yesterday took Hlangwani hill, on the right of the enemy's position and commanding Colenso, the rest of the force advancing toward the Tugela. This morning the enemy has withdrawn all troops north of the Tugela and had practically evacuated Colenso.

"Today Hart occupied Colenso after a very slight resistance by a weak rear guard, and we hold the Tugela on the south side from Colenso to Eagle Nest. The enemy seem to be in full retreat and apparently are only holding the position they occupy across from Colenso to hold the Ladysmith railway, where it is closed to the Tugela, with a weak rear guard. Hart's advance guard is crossing at Colenso. Our casualties yesterday and today have, I hope, been few."

BULLER'S MOVEMENT.

Cannot Prevent Isolated Parties of Boers From Crossing River.

DURBAN, Feb. 19.—Monday evening.—While Buller is continuing his movement on the extreme right and has made every disposition for the defense of his position to the left and south of the Tugela by maintaining a force adequate for that purpose, isolated parties of Boers sometimes cross the river. There is much sniping.

APPEAL TO OLD GUARD.

The Queen Calls Upon the Retired List to Form the Home Defense While the Youngsters Are at War.

LONDON, Feb. 20.—The queen, through her private secretary, Blige, has sent the following letter to the commander-in-chief of the forces, Lord Wolseley:

"Osborne, Feb. 17.—My Dear Lord Wolseley: As so large a proportion of the army is now in South Africa, the queen fully realizes that necessary measures must be adopted for home

defense. Her majesty is advised that it would be possible to devise for a year an efficient force from her old soldiers who have already served as officers and privates, and, confident in their devotion to their country and loyalty to their throne, the queen appeals to them to serve her once more in place of those who are for a time, together with the people of her colonies, are nobly resisting the invasion of her South African possessions. Her majesty has signified her pleasure that these battalions shall be designated the Royal Reserve battalions of her army."

ROBERTS' CASUALTY LIST

British Officers Killed in the Relief of Kimberley.

LONDON, Feb. 20.—The war office announces the following casualties among officers during the relief of Kimberley:

Killed—Lieutenant Heslith, Sixteenth lancers; Lieutenant Theron W. McClintock Bunbury, Second dragoons. Wounded—Captain Gordon and Lieutenant Brasse, Ninth lancers; Captain Tuson, Sixteenth lancers; Lieutenants Fordyce and Long, Second dragoons.

BOMBARDING THE BOERS.

Great Activity Among Buller's Artillery at Hlangwani Hill.

DURBAN, Feb. 19.—There was continuous fighting yesterday from the British positions on Gun hill and Hlangwani hill. The troops advanced from the former towards Monte Christo. There was a heavy bombardment with three 47 inch guns and the 100-pounder siege gun, supported by infantry against the Boer position on Hlangwani hill, which adjoins Monte Christo, and is regarded as the key to Grobler's Kloof.

The firing was particularly active from Hlangwani hill on the strong Boer entrenchments at the extreme end of Hlangwani hill. These entrenchments were strengthened with sand bags. The firing still continued at 6 o'clock yesterday evening.

During the day the gun "Lady Randolph" came on an armored train from the direction of Colenso.

It was reported that we have captured 100 prisoners. The naval gun knocked out the "Long Tom" on Hlangwani hill at the first shot, for which General Buller especially complimented the gunners.

Hlangwani hill lies between two bends of the Tugela river. The Boers have erected a bridge between Hlangwani and the northern bank of the river.

RAIL OPEN TO KIMBERLEY.

First Train Dispatched With Coal to the Relieved City.

CAPE TOWN, Feb. 19.—Repairs to the railway have sufficiently advanced to enable the despatch tonight of the first train to Kimberley, laden with coal.

After that the military requirements will be the first consideration; second, foodstuffs, and then passengers, which latter train it is anticipated will start on Wednesday or Thursday.

BULLER'S RECENT CASUALTIES.

LONDON, Feb. 20.—The casualties among General Buller's forces in the fighting at Hlangwani Hill, Monte Christo hill and at other places, from February 15 to February 18, were killed:

Captain T. H. Burney and 13 men; wounded, six officers and 154 men.

FRENCH'S TRIFLING LOSS.

MODDER RIVER, Feb. 20.—General French lost only seven men killed and 35 wounded during the three days from February 14 to February 16, while on his march to Kimberley.

A VISIONARY ALARM.

Social Reformer Sees Great Danger in the Spread of Mormonism.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—The suppression of polygamy was further considered today by the house committee on judiciary, Dr. Josiah Strong, president of the league of social service, speaking in advocacy of federal legislation, said that if the government did not act, it was not unlikely Joseph Smith's prophecy, that every state west of the Mississippi would be brought under the Mormon influence would be fulfilled.

COMING TO THE SOUND.

Ex-Secretary Alger to Develop His Timber Properties.

SEATTLE, Feb. 21.—Ex-Secretary of War Alger and Captain Bliss are planning to operate their extensive lumbering interests on Puget sound, and will erect a large saw mill at Fairhaven. General Alger was in Seattle Saturday arranging the details of the extension. A. H. Shook has come from Michigan to be the general superintendent in the northwest of the corporate interests.

PHILIPPINE PUBLIC FUNDS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—The war department has issued the statement that the receipts of public funds in the Philippine islands, beginning August 13, 1898, and ending December 31, 1899, amount to \$6,896,090.

CLARK CLOSES HIS TESTIMONY

Disclaims All Knowledge of Reports of Bribery in His Behalf.

WELLCOME ON THE STAND

Floor Manager Day Confronted With Some Hard Nuts to Crack in Connection With His Oath of Office.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Senator Clark today continued and completed his testimony before the senate committee on elections, but his testimony did not attract as much attention as that of other witnesses who were heard during the day.

His cross examination by Campbell, related almost entirely to questions concerning campaign expenses. Asked about the reports that his son had bought a large amount of property from State Senator Warren, Clark said he made no inquiry of him because he was thoroughly convinced the reports were untrue.

"I asked neither him nor Wellcome, nor Bickford, nor Steele, nor any of the men in regard to any of the reports of bribery, because I was sure they were absolutely false. The charges were made," continued Clark, "by men in whom I had no confidence, and they went in one ear and out the other."

His son, he said, was in the habit of conducting his own business without consulting him. Campbell, during the course of the cross examination, asked Clark to submit his account books showing his expenditures since the beginning of the campaign in Montana. Faulkner objected. He said Clark had made a statement showing all his political expenditures, and that he was not bound to expose his personal business adventures. Campbell said all the prosecution asked was that some one appointed by the committee should have an opportunity of examining the books.

No decision was reached at the time, and Clark was temporarily excused to permit Frank Corbett to be heard concerning the incidents growing out of his visit to Helena on a special train on August 5 last. He said he had not at the time known Dr. Treacy, having only met him last November. Asked why it was necessary to take a special train to Helena August 5, in connection with the Wellcome disbarment case, the witness said information had come to him that Wellcome's Helena attorney said he did not mean to file any answer. He had told Charles Clark that the matter was serious and important and should be attended to.

"The trip was made for that purpose," said Corbett, "and the idea that I had anything to do with bribing the supreme court is simply insane."

Faulkner—Having read Justice Piggott's testimony, have you any correction to make of your statement formerly given to this committee.

Witness—I have not; my statement is here with Piggott's and will have to stand. The other witnesses besides Frank Corbett, of Butte, recalled, were E. C. Day, who was the Clark leader on the floor of the Montana house of representatives, and John B. Wellcome, who was general manager for Clark.

Wellcome did not take the stand until late and his examination in chief was not completed when the committee adjourned for the day. He made a general and specific denial of all the allegations made by White and others. These denials were made in response to questions by Faulkner and the witness uniformly answered, "I did not," "No," or "Nothing like it occurred."

Day admitted having accepted a present of \$5,000 from Frank Clark and said he understood that it was given as a testimonial and as compensation for his services.

His oath of office as a member of the house was read and seemed to produce quite an impression upon some of the committee. "Did you have your oath of office in mind?" Mr. Birney asked. Day replied that he did not. This oath was found to contain the following clause: "I will not knowingly, directly or indirectly, accept any money or valuable thing for the performance or non-performance of any act or duty pertaining to my office."

Corbett and Justice Piggott were confronted for a brief period early in the day in rather a dramatic manner. They both testified concerning the mortgage held by Corbett and there was a direct clash in their statements.

BRYAN AND CALDWELL.

May 3 Set for the National Fusion Convention, and Sioux Falls the Place.

LINCOLN, Neb. Feb. 20.—The popular national committee, of the fusion faction, has named May 3 as the date for their national convention.

The representation is based on the

vote for General J. B. Weaver, for president in 1892, or if any candidate for a state office has since polled a larger vote, that vote shall be the basis. Two delegations at large are given to each state.

The feature of the meeting was the unanimity with which the members accepted and indorsed the declaration of Senator Allen of Nebraska that Wm. J. Bryan would be the candidate of both the populist and democratic parties, and coupling with his name that of Judge Henry Caldwell, of Arkansas, as the logical and most promising vice-presidential possibility.

Senator Allen went so far as to say that he had positive knowledge that if Judge Caldwell were nominated by the populists as Bryan's running mate, he would be acceptable to the democrats and the fusion national ticket would be Bryan and Caldwell.

An amendment to refer to the committee the time for holding the convention was voted down and Wednesday, May 9, was decided upon.

Kansas City, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and Indianapolis, presented claims for the convention. The ballot resulted: Sioux Falls 36, Kansas City 22, Milwaukee 10, and Indianapolis 5.

Before the result could be announced changes were made in rapid succession to Sioux Falls and the choice of that city was made unanimous. Chairman Butler in a statement to the Associated Press at the conclusion of the meeting said he had no regrets for his decision of yesterday, which led to the best of the middle-of-the-road men.

"It was a bolt here or at the convention," said Senator Butler, "and we preferred that the disturbers should show their hands early in the fight."

THE KENTUCKY LEGISLATURES.

Both Meet and Adjourn So as to Keep Out of Each Other's Way.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Feb. 20.—The democratic senate at 11:45 took a recess till 2 o'clock and at noon the republican senate, presided over by Lieutenant Marshall, convened, but remained in session only five minutes.

The house adopted the Allen resolution passed by the senate yesterday ratifying the former proceedings by which Goebel and Beckham were declared in office.

The republicans refused to vote on the original call, hoping to break the quorum, but seeing that it had carried, went on record.

Four democrats did not vote.

GOEBEL'S REPUTED ASSASSINS.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Feb. 20.—J. L. Sutton, the sheriff of White county, who was recently arrested on a charge of complicity in the Goebel assassination, was brought here from Louisville, waived examination before Judge Moran and was admitted to bail.

Whittaker, who is also charged with complicity in the assassination was also released from Louisville and turned over to the local authorities. He will not waive examination but will go to trial.

MORMON LINES PURCHASED.

Western Union Company Now Controls Telegraph Field in Utah.

CHICAGO, Feb. 20.—Colonel R. C. Clowry, vice-president and general superintendent of the Western Union Telegraph Company today completed the purchase of all the lines of the Desert Telegraph Company, which have hitherto belonged to and been operated by the Mormon church.

These lines extend throughout Utah and to all Mormon settlements in the states of Idaho and Nevada and their construction by Brigham Young was in advance of the building of the railroads. For many years they were the principal means of immediate communication for the Mormon church and its business connections.

JONES' BRIGHT IDEA.

Wants to Forestall a Resolution Which Will Be Adopted by Republican Convention.

CHICAGO, Feb. 20.—A special to the Post from Washington, says:

The election of United States senators by direct vote of the people by constitutional amendment will be one of the planks in the platform of the democratic party, according to Chairman Jones of the democratic national committee.

SENTENCE OF WEBSTER.

SPOKANE, Feb. 20.—George Webster was today sentenced to be hanged March 29 for the murder of Mrs. Lizzie Aspland near Cheney, May 6, 1897. Webster's case was carried to the United States supreme court.

COREAN ORE AT FRISCO.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 20.—The steamer Coptic brought to a local smelting company, 1,500 sacks of ore concentrates from the mines of an American syndicate in Corea and is the second similar consignment within a few months.

ANOTHER MCCORMICK DEAD.

CHICAGO, Feb. 20.—Lander J. McCormick, a member of the famous harvester machinery firm, died today of pneumonia.

PUERTO RICAN TARIFF BILL

The House Consumes Another Day in Its Discussion.

ITS FATE IS DUBIOUS

Many Republicans Oppose Its Passage and a Caucus Will be Called to Consider the Situation.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.—Again today there were but three speeches in the house upon the Puerto Rican tariff bill. Five hours were consumed in their delivery. Hopkins, of Illinois, spoke in support of the bill, and Newlands, of Nevada, and Swanson, of Virginia, in opposition to it.

The speakers devoted themselves almost exclusively to the constitutional question involved and were listened to with attention.

The republican leaders are becoming nervous over the fate of the bill. They have only a majority of fourteen over the opposition, which is solidly opposed to the measure. Eight votes from the republican side would therefore defeat it, and there are from twelve to fifteen republican votes in doubt.

A movement for a republican caucus is being agitated and, although no call had been issued up to the time of adjournment tonight, the general understanding was that one would be held tomorrow night.

The republicans reported to be opposed to the bill are McCall, of Massachusetts; Littlefield, of Maine; Powers, of Vermont; Tompkins, of New York; Bromwell, of Ohio; Lorimer, of Illinois; Heatwole, of Minnesota; Tongue, of Oregon; Lord, of California; Jones and Cushman, of Washington, and Crumpacker, of Indiana.

CHANCE FOR PETTIGREW.

Administration Preparing to Enforce a Claim Growing Out of the Spanish War.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—At today's cabinet meeting the Spanish claim, involving the proceeds of the sale of the railroad made by the Spanish authorities after the treaty of Paris had been signed, was discussed.

It will be the contention of this government that all railroad property was included in the transfer of title by Spain to this government for the sum of \$20,000,000, and that the Spanish authorities had no power to transfer it. The railroad material unused and held in reserve may, however, be considered, under the treaty, as belonging to Spain.

FINANCIAL BILL CONFEREES.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—The conferees on the financial bill were in session several hours today. It was announced that an agreement might finally be reached.

TRIPLE MEET PROPOSED.

University of California to Play Ball With Cornell and Columbia.

BERKELEY, Cal., Feb. 20.—The athletic management of Cornell University has proposed a triple meet between the University of California, Columbia University and Cornell in New York on the 12th of May.

It will be impossible for California to give Cornell and Columbia the date proposed as a meet with Princeton is arranged for that day but a later date may be fixed. A telegram from Harvard states that its athletic team cannot meet the Californians this spring.

CHINA WILL RESIST.

Provincial Officers Ordered to Fight Foreign Aggression.

VICTORIA, B. C., Feb. 20.—A warlike secret edict has been issued by the emperor dowager of China on her own initiative. According to the North China Herald, she has dispatched a circular to the governors and viceroys of maritime provinces appealing to them to resist by force of arms all further aggressions by foreign powers on Chinese soil.

The edict calls upon the governors to resist all aggressions and "protect their ancestral homes and graves from the invader," by force of arms, if necessary, without asking instructions from Peking.

All the Chinese papers say that the Russians and French are backing the hand of the emperor dowager in her act of detroning the young emperor.

A VALUABLE PICTURE.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20.—The Metropolitan Museum of Art trustees, in their annual report state the value of Turner's Grand Canal, Venice, bequeathed to the museum by Cornelius Vanderbilt, as \$100,000.